

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AF-10 ARA-10 EA-10 EUR-12 NEA-10

SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9563

INFO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY ACCRA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY ALGIERS PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY ANKARA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY ANTANANARIVO PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY ATHENS PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY BELGRADE PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY BOGOTA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY BERN PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY BONN PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY BRASILIA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY CARACAS PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN PRIORITY

USMISSION GENEVA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY HELSINKI PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY JIDDA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY KINGSTON PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY LAGOS PRIORITY

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AMEMBASSY LIMA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY LISBON PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY MADRID PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY MANILA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY MEXICO CITY PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY OSLO PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY ROME PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY TOKYO PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY VIENNA PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN 0523

USEEC

USOECD

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EGEN, UN, PORG

SUBJ: OVERVIEW MECHANISM: WEO MEETINGS

1. SUMMARY: WEO ENDORSES WHALEN. PLENARY SESSION
POSTPONED PENDING RESOLUTION OF ROTATION ISSUE.
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2. FOLLOWING MEETING OF WEO REPRESENTATIVES WITH G-77
COUNTERPARTS (SEPTEL), WEO GROUP MET TWICE. IT UNANIMOUSLY
ENDORSED REPRESENTATIVE WHELEN AS WEO CANDIDATE FOR
CHAIRMAN OF OVERVIEW COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE. WEO CHAIRMAN
(SPAIN) ADVISED G-77 CHAIRMAN MILLS AND ASKED HIM WHETHER
G-77 ALSO WOULD SUPPORT WHALEN.

3. MILLS INDICATED G77 WAS COMMITTED TO DJAZAIRI AS
CHAIRMAN AND WOULD NOT NOW BACK ANOTHER CANDIDATE. HE
SAID HE WAS UNABLE TO GIVE FURTHER ASSURANCE THAT WEO
WOULD GET CHAIRMANSHIP NEXT YEAR. HE SUGGESTED THAT WEO
TRY TO CONVINCE SOCIALIST COUNTRIES TO SUPPORT WEO CANDIDATE
NEXT YEAR.

4. NEITHER G-77 NOR WEO WANTED FLOOR FIGHT OVER CHAIRMANSHIP,
SO OPENING PLENARY SESSION WAS POSTPONED UNTIL FEB 14.

5. DENMARK SUGGESTED WE MIGHT BE ASKING G-77 TO GIVE
GREATER ASSURANCES ON ROTATION THAN THEY WERE ABLE. SPAIN
NOTED THAT G-77 CANNOT ALWAYS DELIVER ON COMMITMENTS BECAUSE
IT BREAKS UP INTO REGIONAL GROUPS.

6. HORMATS STRESSED THAT THERE WAS A MAJOR POLITICAL ISSUE AT STAKE. WE PUT FORWARD A RESPECTED CANDIDATE IN EVIDENCE OF THE SERIOUSNESS OF OUR ATTITUDE TOWARD THE OVERVIEW. IF THE G-77 HAD ACCEPTED THIS OFFER, IT WOULD HAVE DEMONSTRATED THEIR SENSE OF FAIRNESS AND BALANCE. HOWEVER, IN LIGHT OF PRIOR G-77 COMMITMENT TO ALGERIA, REFUSAL TO ACCEPT THE OFFER WAS, PERHAPS, INEVITABLE. HOWEVER, UNLESS THE WEO REPRESENTATIVES COULD GO BACK TO THEIR GOVERNMENTS WITH ASSURANCES THAT WEO WOULD PROVIDE THE NEXT CHAIRMAN TO DEMONSTRATE G-77 BALANCE AND FAIRNESS, THERE WOULD BE NEGATIVE REACTIONS TO THE OVERVIEW EXERCISE EVEN BEFORE IT BEGINS. ITS WORK WOULD NOT BE TAKEN SERIOUSLY IN CAPITALS. JAPAN AND UK ALSO STRESSED THE NEED FOR ASSURANCES ON ROTATION. CONFIDENTIAL

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7. UK SUGGESTED THAT WEO CHAIRMAN CONTACT ALL REGIONAL GROUPINGS AS WELL AS G-77 LEADERSHIP AND TRY TO GET THEIR ASSURANCES THAT WEO COULD PROVIDE THE NEXT CHAIRMAN. THIS WOULD FACILITATE G-77'S EFFORTS. THE GROUP AGREED TO THIS COURSE OF ACTION.

8. COMMENT: IT IS NOT YET CLEAR HOW FIRM A COMMITMENT TO ROTATION OF THE CHAIRMANSHIP TO WEO NEXT YEAR WE CAN GET. NEVERTHELESS, IT IS LIKELY THAT WE WILL OBTAIN SUBSTANTIAL INFORMAL, BUT WELL PUBLICIZED, ASSURANCES ON WHICH IT WILL BE DIFFICULT FOR THE G-77 TO RENEGE. MORE IMPORTANT, HOWEVER, IS THAT IT IS NOW CLEAR THAT, HAD THE US NOT OFFERED A CANDIDATE AGGRESSIVELY AND MAINTED FIRM PRESSURE ON THE WEO COUNTRIES TO SUPPORT HIM UNANIMOUSLY, DJAZAIRI PROBABLY WOULD HAVE BECOME PERMANENT CHAIRMAN OF THE OVERVIEW MECHANISM. THAT POSSIBILITY NOW SEEMS VERY REMOTE. YOUNG

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